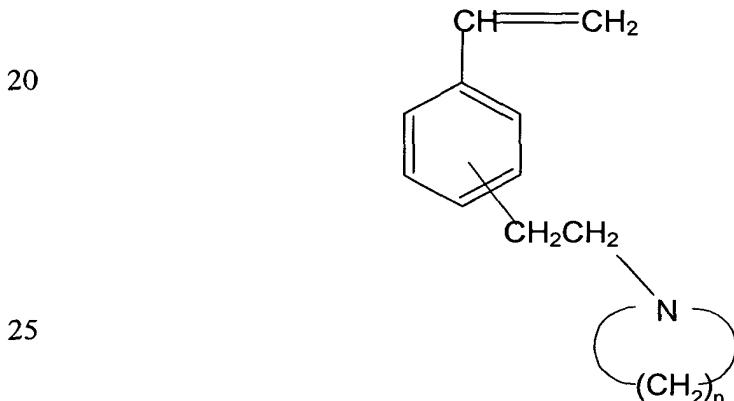


Abstract of the Disclosure

FUNCTIONALIZED MONOMERS FOR SYNTHESIS OF RUBBERY POLYMERS

This invention is based upon the unexpected finding
5 that random copolymers of 1,3-butadiene monomer and 3-(2-pyrrolidinoethyl) styrene and/or 4-(2-pyrrolidinoethyl) styrene having a low vinyl content can be synthesized by anionic polymerization at normal polymerization
temperatures without the need for a conventional polar
10 modifier. The subject invention more specifically discloses a process for synthesizing a rubbery polymer that comprises copolymerizing at least one conjugated diolefin monomer and at least one functionalized monomer in an organic solvent at a temperature which is within the range
15 of 20°C to about 100°C, wherein the polymerization is initiated with an anionic initiator, wherein the functionalized monomer is of the structural formula:



wherein n represents an integer from 4 to about 10, and
wherein the polymerization is conducted in the absence of
30 conventional polar modifiers.